orrespondence is being filed by depositing it with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope with sufficient postage and addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below.

**PATENT** 

Paper No.

File: Newmrkt-P4-99

Date: October 24, 2001

Signed:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group 2100

Inventor

Anthony F. Herbst and Wayne F. Perg

Serial No.

09/467,646

Filed

December 20, 1999

For

DIGITAL COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR OPERATING A

CUSTOMIZABLE INVESTMENT FUND

Group Art Unit

Examiner

Unknown

2768

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER

SIR:

For the above-identified patent application, please record the following in the Assignment Branch:

- PTO Form 1449; 1.
- 2. Cited Art; and
- Information Disclosure Statement. 3.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the above-identified patent application or credit any overcharges to Deposit Account No. 50-0235.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 24, 2001

Peter K. Trzyne

(Reg. No. 32,601)

P.O. Box 7131 Chicago, IL 60680-7131

(312) 240-0824

that this correspondence is being filed by ith the United States Postal Service as first an envelope with sufficient postage and addressed Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington,

PATENT

Paper No.

Our File No. NewMrkt-P99-4

October 24

D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below.

Signed: Peter K. Trzyna (Reg. No. 32,601

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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2768

Examiner

Unknown

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to the duty of disclosure, candor, and good faith embodied in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 owed by the inventor, the inventor's assignee substantively involved in the application, and the patent attorney to the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Submitted herewith are patents, publications, and other information of which the inventor is aware to help make this information of record.

#### I. **COMMENT ON THE ENCLOSED PRIOR ART**

The section of the patent application subtitled "Background of the Invention" identifies material believed to be material to, or of interest in, the examination of the application and provides a concise explanation of the material. This information Disclosure Statement also transmits copies of patents identified in that subsection of the patent application titled "Description of Related Art," along with other information which the undersigned respectfully requests the Examiner to consider in the examination of the application. If copies of the other materials cited in the "Background of the Invention" can be readily obtained by the Applicant, they will also be transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office. The Examiner is also requested to initial as indicated in the attached Form PTO-1 449 if a citation is considered and draw a line through a citation not considered, and include a copy of Form PTO-1449 with the next communication to counsel for the Applicant. Enclosed is a copy of every patent uncovered in a search conducted as specified in the Petition to Make Special that is enclosed herewith.

While the Information Disclosure Statement and the patents, publications, and other information provided hereby may be "material" pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, it is not intended that these constitute an admission of "prior art" for this invention unless expressly designated as such. Although a search has been made of United States patents, and the inventor has added other information in the specification, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that no other material information, as defined in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, exists.

### II. FEE

The present Information Disclosure statement is being filed prior to the receipt of a first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). Accordingly, no fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, should any fees be deemed necessary (except payment of the issue fee), the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 50-0235.

# III. SIGNATURE

The patent attorney signs below based on information from the inventor's and the attorney's file.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 24, 2001

Peter K. Trzyna

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